

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner, the head comprising including:
 - a. a lower housing portion (12); and
 - b. an upper housing portion (14); wherein characterised in that the upper housing portion (12) is movable relative to the lower housing portion (12) between a closed position for use and an open position in which airflow passages (56), within the head are opened from above.
2. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 1 further comprising ~~characterised~~ in that it further includes a rotatably mounted tool element (26) which is exposed from above when the upper housing portion (14) is in the open position.
3. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 2 wherein ~~characterised~~ in that the lower housing portion (12) does not include any part which extends laterally in front of the tool element (26), such that when the upper housing portion (14) is in the open position the tool element (26) is also exposed from the front.
4. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 2 wherein the head does not include a sole plate ~~or 3 characterised in that it does not include a sole plate.~~
5. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner of claim 2 wherein ~~according to any one of the preceding claims characterised in that~~ when the upper

housing portion (14) is in the closed position it defines, in combination with the lower housing portion (12), an airflow opening (54) which in use is adjacent the ground.

6. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 5 wherein ~~as dependent upon claim 2 characterised in that~~ the tool element (26) is located within the airflow opening.

7. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 1 wherein the head further comprises ~~any one of the preceding claims characterised in that~~ it further includes at least one catch (22) to retain the upper housing portion (14) in the closed position which is releasable without the use of any tool.

8. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 1 wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims characterised in that~~ when the upper housing portion is in the open position airflow paths within the head are accessible for cleaning or maintenance.

9. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 2 wherein ~~, or any claim appendant thereto, characterised in that~~ the tool element (26) is driven by a drive mechanism and when the upper housing portion (14) is in the open position the drive mechanism is accessible for cleaning or maintenance.

10. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 9 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the tool element (26) is readily removable without the use of any tool.

11. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 9 further comprising ~~either one of Claims 9 or 10 characterised in that it further includes a~~

switch (44) for control of the drive mechanism which is open when the upper housing portion is in the open position, such that the drive mechanism cannot be operated, and closed when the upper housing portion is in the closed position, such that the drive mechanism can be operated.

12. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 11 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the switch (44) is activated by a protrusion (46) on an inner surface of the upper housing portion (14) which contacts the switch when the upper housing portion is moved to the closed position.

13. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 9 wherein ~~any one of Claims 9 to 12 characterised in that~~ the drive mechanism includes an electric motor (30) within the head.

14. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to claim 9 ~~wherein any one of Claims 9 to 12 characterised in that~~ the drive mechanism includes a turbine within the head and wherein said airflow paths include a path connecting to ~~and/or from and/or through~~ the turbine.

15. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 9 or ~~any claim appendant thereto~~, wherein the drive mechanism for rotation of the tool element includes a drive belt (136:166) having internal and external surfaces, and wherein ~~is characterised in that~~ the drive belt does not pass around the tool element (26).

16. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 15 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the drive mechanism further includes a drive pinion (138)

provided on the tool element, and ~~in that~~ the drive belt is toothed on its external surface ~~136b~~ and engages with the drive pinion.

17. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 15 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a circumferential drive surface (168) is provided on the tool element and the external surface of the belt (166) frictionally engages the drive surface.

18. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 17 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the drive surface is a pulley and the external surface of the belt has a cross-section which cooperates with the pulley.

19. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 15 wherein ~~or 16 characterised in that~~ the drive mechanism further includes a turbine (160) which drives a turbine pinion (135) engaging the belt.

20. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 15 wherein ~~or 16 characterised in that~~ the drive mechanism further includes an electric motor (130) which drives a motor pinion (135) engaging the belt.

21. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 19 wherein ~~or 20 characterised in that~~ the drive belt is toothed on its internal surface (136a), passes around, and engages with the turbine or motor pinion.

22. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 19 wherein ~~or 20 as appendant to Claim 16 characterised in that~~ the turbine or motor pinion engages the toothed external surface (136b) of the drive belt.

23. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 17 ~~wherein or 18 characterised in that~~ the drive mechanism further includes a motor or turbine having a drive wheel which frictionally engages the drive belt.

24. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to ~~any one of Claims claim 15 to 23 characterised in that~~ wherein the drive mechanism further includes a support wheel around which the drive belt also passes, and which holds the drive belt adjacent to and in engagement with the tool element.

25. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 24 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the support wheel is freely rotatable.

26. (Currently Amended) A head for a suction cleaner according to Claim 24 ~~wherein or 25 characterised in that~~ the support wheel is a pinion.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A cleaning apparatus adapted for use with a suction cleaner, the cleaning apparatus including:

- a. a connector adapted to be removably connected to a wand of the suction cleaner;
- b. a lower housing portion secured to the connector and having ground engaging wheels;
- c. an upper housing portion secured to the connector, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the lower housing portion provides support for a rotatably mounted brush bar,

11136-226
PCT/GB03/005301
Amdt. Dated June 3, 2005

and the upper housing portion is pivotable relative to the lower housing portion between a closed position and an open position in which the brush bar is exposed from above.

30. (Cancelled)